

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, March 6, 2017**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell, Michael Nelson, Rich Kuklewicz, and Town Administrator Steven Ellis. Kuklewicz makes introduction and announces meeting is being taped.

**Approve Selectmen minutes of February 27, 2007**

Will be approved next week.

**Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment**

None.

**Bruce Hunter, FCRHRA**

**Executive Authorization to Disburse No. 1, Invoice #1.2017-25-1, Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project Phase 1, Contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,250.00**

*Nelson makes a motion to authorize Disbursement No. 1 for Invoice #1.2017-25-1 Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project to Berkshire Design Group in the amount of \$2,250.00. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Executive Authorization to Disburse No. 1, Invoice #1.2017-25-2, Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project Phase 1, Contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,250.00**

*Nelson makes a motion to authorize Disbursement No. 1 for Invoice #1.2017-25-2 Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project to Berkshire Design Group in the amount of \$2,250.00. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Personnel Board**

**Remove Richard Suchanek from 111F Status effective 3/1/17**

*Nelson makes a motion to remove Richard Suchanek from 111F Status effective March 1, 2017 and return back to duty. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Personnel Status Change Notice: Richard Suchanek, Retirement effective 3/3/17**

*Nelson makes a motion to approve with regret the resignation via retirement of Richard Suchanek effective March 3, 2017 with our gratitude for many years of wonderful service. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

Town Administrator will write a letter for the meeting next week, stating the appreciation from the Board and residents for Suchanek's many years of service for the community.

**Personnel Status Change Notice: Richard Suchanek, Reserve Police Officer, Grade: Reserve Officer, Step 3, \$17.00/hr. Effective 3/3/17**

*Nelson makes the motion to appoint Richard Suchanek as a Reserve Police Officer effective March 3rd, 2017 at Step 3, \$17.00/hr. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Request Civil Service Promotional List for Sergeant**

*Nelson makes the motion to authorize Chief Dodge to take the appropriate steps to request a Promotional List for Sergeant in the Town of Montague. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Request Civil Service Promotional List for Police Officer**

*Nelson makes the motion to approve Chief Dodge's taking necessary steps to request a Civil Service Promotional List for Police Officer in the Town of Montague. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

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**Peter Golrick, Airport Commission**

**Resignation of Michael Longo, Airport Manager effective 2/28/17**

*Nelson makes a motion to accept with regret the resignation of Michael Longo as Airport Manager effective February 2nd, 2017. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

According to Golrick, the Commission decided to form a search subcommittee, hopefully with two members of the Commission and three members of the public. The Commission will cast their net locally for the position of Airport Manager, which is a 19-hour a week, non-benefited position. Golrick will keep the Board posted regarding the search.

**Request to use Performance Appraisal Pilot for Airport Manager**

*Nelson makes a motion to authorize the Airport Committee to move forward with the Pilot Model of the presented Performance Appraisal for Airport Manager. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**David Detmold, Tree Committee**

**Appoint Zhaohong Wen (Millers Falls Representative) to Tree Committee, until June 30, 2017**

*Nelson makes a motion to appoint Zhaohong Wen as the Millers Falls Representative to the Tree Committee through June 30th, 2017. Nelson seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Town Administrator's Report**

**Request from Omni Navitas to change the zoning designation for the Millers Falls Road property known as Map 25 Lot 14 (10.2 acres) from Agricultural-Forestry 4 (AF-4) to Industrial (ID) for a Solar Project**

*Nelson makes a motion to accept the request from Omni Navitas to change the zoning designation for the Millers Falls Road property known as Map 25 Lot 14, and to forward it on to the Planning Department and Committee for their considerations. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**Strathmore RFP Timeline**

Ellis: We did receive support from Town Meeting for an appropriation to proceed with a series of steps that will make the Strathmore Mill more secure, keeping out vandals, keeping out the weather, and insuring that public safety is maintained. Our Building Inspector was on-site today trying to work out the specifications for the RFP. The appropriation is for the work, not for the RFP per se. It looks like it would make the most sense to hold the roofing portion of the work, which is very situational from roof to roof and very hard to itemize. That will rest outside the RFP now. We hope to have the bid prepared and posted by either this Wednesday or the following Wednesday. The timeline that we foresee would have us with a bid opening day of either April 4th or April 11th. This time next week, all of that should be very firm. Some of the work will be on the river side of the building and locations where it would be more advantageous to work in the spring than the winter.

**FERC Update**

Ellis: The Town is involved in a once-in-forty-years relicensing process. First Light is working with towns up and down the river, including ours, Gill, Northfield, Erving, Bellows Falls, and many others. The process is intended to give communities, the State, and the Feds an opportunity to review energy projects that are situated on the river as the river is a source of revenue and income for the utilities. When a dam is built and when certain structures are put in place, there are environmental and recreational impacts. The appropriate licensing process is an opportunity to consider those impacts and consider mitigation of those impacts. We will have our first meeting tomorrow in Burlington, one of the chief headquarters for First Light, where we will be introduced to the process that is in front of us. We'll have a chance to see exactly what the timelines are, what the steps are, what the timeline is for getting the results of sub-studies that were required by the State, etc. We've also engaged the Franklin County Region of Governments to talk about how they might support communities which, acting independently, may either lack information or operate less efficiently. In addition to the municipalities, Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife, American Whitewater Kayaking Association, Appalachian Mountain Club and a variety of different interests are part of these conversations. Walter Ramsay has done a lot of advanced work on this, and he and I are going to work very closely together throughout the process. We will undoubtedly be coming back to the Board at various points to discuss what the best structure will be for involving the Board in conversations in what ultimately may be

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negotiations. This meeting, which First Light is convening, is an opportunity on their part to try to move ahead toward settlement as part of a process that I believe we expect to take about 18 months.

Singleton: A huge issue with developing the Strathmore is that bridge. I've been told repeatedly over the past ten years that the Town's position is that First Light should fix that bridge, and I've been told that somehow or other we were going to use the relicensing process as leverage to fix it.

Elan: Is that something that's eligible to be part of this discussion with FERC or is it outside the process?

Kuklewicz: I think the best thing for us is to let those discussions happen in the venues they need to happen.

**Topics not anticipated in the 48-hour posting requirements**

Ellis: It was an exciting thing for residents of the community of Montague and Gill and Erving to see that both of its high school basketball teams qualified for the semifinals in the Western Mass Championship series this week. I certainly hope that the community at large will come out and see them play at the Cage.

**Executive Session under G.L. c 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss possible legal action and Strategy concerning the Berkshire Gas moratorium DPU docket #16-103. Votes may be taken**

Kuklewicz: The Chair deems that holding this discussion in open session would be detrimental to the Town's position.

*Nelson makes a motion to enter Executive Session under G.L. c 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss possible Legal Action and Strategy concerning the Berkshire Gas moratorium DPU docket #16-103. Votes may be taken. We will leave Executive Session to adjourn our regular meeting. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

**List of Documents and Exhibits:**

- Execute Authorization to Disburse No. 1, Invoice #1.2017-25-1, Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project Phase 1, Contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,250.00
- Execute Authorization to Disburse No. 1, Invoice #1.2017-25-2, Avenue A and Peskeompskut Park Pedestrian Lighting Project Phase 1, Contractor: Berkshire Design Group, Inc. \$2,250.00
- Personnel Status Change Notice: Remove Richard Suchanek from 111F Status effective 3/1/17
- Personnel Status Change Notice: Richard Suchanek, Retirement effective 3/3/17
- Personnel Status Change Notice: Richard Suchanek, Reserve Police Officer, Grade: Reserve Officer, Step 3, \$17.00/hr. Effective 3/3/17
- Resignation of Michael Longo, Airport Manager effective 2/28/17
- Appointment form: Zhaohong Wen, (Millers Falls Representative) to Tree Committee, until June 30, 2017
- Request to use Performance Appraisal Pilot for Airport Manager
- Request from Omni Navitas to change the zoning designation for the Millers Falls Road property known as Map 25 Lot 14 (10.2 acres) from Agricultural-Forestry 4 (AF-4) to Industrial (ID) for a Solar Project